* Build a knowledge base on the transport needs of the urban poor;

MEDIUM TERM

* Create a Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority for large metropolitan regions;

* Amend municipal laws to make Urban Local Bodies responsible for traffic regulation and management;

* Improve funding for urban transport, including possible non-lapsable transport funds, with contribution from user charges and from Central, State, and municipal agencies.

As the primary responsibility of Urban Transport is that of the State Governments, it is proposed to initiate consultations with the State Governments in this regard.

Order for Bogies for metro rail in Delhi

†2791. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed the order for the bogies based on latest Japanese technique for Metro Rail in Delhi;

(b) if so, number of bogies to be imported and total amount spent for the purpose;

(c) the reasons for not manufacturing the said bogies indigenously; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure the indigenous manufacturing of such bogies in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI. O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Orders for procurement of coaches, based on latest Japanese and Korean technology, have been placed by Delhi Metro Corporation.

(b) 60 coaches are to be imported at a cost of Rs. 392 crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(c) and (d) Technology for manufacturing state-of-the-art metro coaches is presently not available in the country. Therefore, out of a total requirement of 240 coaches, the first batch of 60 coaches are being imported and the remaining 180 coaches will be manufactured in the country with progressive increase in indigenous content.

External and Internal funding for urban development projects

2792. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total external funding received for the various urban development projects, in the country, State-wise;

(b) the break-up of external funding for various sectors *viz.*, water supply, sanitation, urban infrastructure, etc.;

(c) whether there is any direct external funding to the urban projects in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financial assistance to State under IDSMT Scheme

2793. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) Scheme;

(b) the number of towns identified for assistance under the scheme and the funds released in each State during the last five years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the financial assistance released earlier to the States for IDSMT was treated as a loan as against grant under the revised scheme; and